

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
ALCOHOL AND DRUG PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

QUARTERLY PROVIDER BRIEFING
Friday, October 16, 2009

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

General

1. If we continue to admit and serve new Prop 36 clients, beyond our current contract levels, after October 1, will we be reimbursed for those services when the JAG funds are distributed?

At present, ADPA can only reimburse a contractor up to the maximum contract allocation amount. To date (November 11, 2009), State guidelines have not yet been issued for JAG funds, so there is no information yet on when those funds would be available or become effective.

2. Given that funding for treatment and prevention is inadequate to meet current needs and is not likely to increase, how can ADPA seriously consider subsidizing transitional housing and sober living for clients by using treatment dollars for this purpose? Should this not be done by using other funding sources?

The types of services allowable under current contracts will remain in effect through the contract periods. Should ADPA decide to contract for transitional housing or sober living, such services would be contained in future solicitations as components of a continuum of alcohol and other drug treatment and recovery services. ADPA's continuing planning process would be used to inform ADPA on how best to invest its resources for community residents needing assistance for their alcohol and other drug problems.

Contracts

- 3a. Permanent Housing – Was there any discussion about need for permanent supportive housing for homeless clients?

ADPA is currently having discussions with County departments and private organizations on how to assist the homeless with permanent supportive housing. ADPA plans to solicit support of ADPA contracted agencies that are interested to determine the best approach.

- 3b. Sober living vs. permanent supportive housing?

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) is a coordinated approach that combines affordable housing with supportive services that helps people live more stable, productive lives. PSH units are intended for a person or family whose head of household is homeless, or at-risk of homelessness, and who experiences mental health, chemical dependency and/or other disabling or chronic health conditions that present barriers to employment and housing stability. Tenants sign a lease and pay rent. Supportive services may be provided onsite or via referral (Corporation for Supportive Housing).

Sober Living facilities are important in supporting treatment and recovery services in a community by helping recovering persons to maintain an alcohol- and drug-free lifestyle. Residents are free to organize and participate in self-help meetings or any other activities that can help them maintain sobriety. The house or its residents: do not and cannot provide any treatment, recovery, or detoxification services; do not have treatment or recovery plans or maintain case files; and do not have a structured, scheduled program of alcohol and drug education, group or individual counseling, or recovery support sessions (State Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs).

Both sober living and permanent supportive housing are part of the continuum of care. However, ADPA does not license or regulate sober living facilities. ADPA hopes to meet with the community sober living owners to see how they can become an effective part of the continuum.

- 4a. Will there be training this fiscal year for the youth guidelines? (Tony Hill addressed this during the Briefing) Will change be possible next year?

There will not be a training this fiscal year on the *Youth Treatment Standards and Practices* since the revisions will not be complete until at least June 2009. ADPA will provide updates and the timeline for implementation to providers as these become available. If you have questions about the current edition referenced in the Additional Provisions section of your contract, please contact your ADPA Contract Program Auditor.

- 4b. Does ADPA have a list of providers that provide adolescent detoxification and/or residential services for youth?

ADPA contracts with the four agencies to provide dedicated residential services for youth:

- **Asian American Drug Abuse Programs (323) 933-9022**
- **California Hispanic Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (323) 722-4529**
- **Phoenix House (818) 686-3194**
- **Tarzana Treatment Centers (661) 726-2630**

ADPA does not contract for adolescent detoxification services. For more services available in your area, contact the Community Assessment Services Center at (800) 564-6600.

- 4c. Will the County provide this fiscal year, trainings for youth providers on best practices and continuum of care?

As part of ADPA's training efforts, youth specific topics will be included. Providers will be informed as soon as training dates are scheduled.

5. H1N1 training and housing expansion are needed in residential setting. Are there training and workshops?

The Department of Public Health has a web page devoted to information on preventing and addressing H1N1 in shelters and home care facilities. This site also has information on how you may contact a public health speaker to come to your facility and educate staff on H1N1. The web site is <http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/acd/h1n1public.htm#>.

Information Systems

6. DATAR - One question asks for the total # of days clients admitted to treatment spent on the waiting list. Does this mean total days or average days?

The question on the Drug and Alcohol Treatment Access Report (DATAR) is 6b and reads: “Total number of days that applicants admitted to treatment spent on waiting list.” Please enter the total number of days and not average days. Please contact ADPA Information Technology help desk for further clarification at (626) 299-4546.

Prevention

7. What detailed prevention planning updates are in the plan? SPA 6 has a great need. Are their needs less?

ADPA conducted a Prevention Planning Meeting on October 8, 2009. Regional Service Planning Area (SPA) breakout work groups were formed. Input was provided on alcohol and other drug contributing factors within the SPA regions. SPA work group inputs have been posted on the ADPA website. This information will also be used for planning purposes.

8. Our agency, Dixon Recovery Inst., would like to get involved with the prevention planning provider program. How do we get involved?

The next meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2010. Please visit the ADPA website for further information on the meeting details. You can also contact Yolanda Cordero at (626) 299-4510 or via e-mail at ycordero@ph.lacounty.gov

9. Tarzana: Please make sure I am on the Prevention Contracts Committee notification list. Thanks, Stewart Sokol@tarzanatc.org

The ADPA prevention team will include your name and contact information in the prevention providers list.

Programs

10. Is the TCPX expected to be used for clients referred from one of the many courts that does not have access?

Yes. Treatment agencies are, as always, to continue to utilize the Treatment Court Probation eXchange (TCPX) system, and input all Progress Reports, despite whether a Court states they may not have access to the TCPX system. Agencies are “required to submit” and should always be prepared to print-out the Progress Report for the Courts by using the reports in the TCPX system. Hand-written reports are not encouraged.

11. We accepted Prop 36 residential on Sept, these clients will finish Nov 09. The funding ended Sept. Will the monitor help in paying us with alternative funding?

Treatment programs that have maximized their Proposition 36 allocations may place participants in an alternative funding source provided that he/she is eligible for treatment services under the source of funding. Alternative funding sources may include Block Grant funding, Third party Payer, Private Pay, CalWORKs, General Relief, and Parolee Services Network, if available (see ADPA Bulletin 09-04). Treatment programs must continue to meet all Proposition 36 reporting requirements as specified in ADPA Bulletin 09-01; and adhere to the time limits as specified in the October 12, 2007, Services Matrix. If there are additional questions regarding this, please contact your assigned Contract Program Auditor, or contact the Proposition 36 Helpline at (888) 742-7900.

12. Upon receiving the Bulletin 09-04 we were under the understanding that our Prop 36 fund no longer existed and would therefore need to transition our Prop 36 women. However based upon your discussion, it seems as if our understanding was wrong ... From the information you presented today, we can still admit Prop 36 clients as Prop 36 clients if our contracted dollar amounts have not been exhausted ... is this correct? And who should we follow-up with? Please help !!

This is correct. If your agency has unexpended contract funding under Proposition 36, the agency can continue to utilize these funds until they have been exhausted. Proposition 36 contract agreements are effective from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010. If there are additional questions regarding this, please contact your assigned Contract Program Auditor, or contact the Proposition 36 Helpline at (888) 742-7900.

13. In Ms. Dyer's presentation she said that people on the wait list would be “encouraged to remain sober”, does this indicate that ADPA's system of care is abstinence – based one?

No. Mrs. Dyer was simply sharing the standard instructions given by the Courts that are provided to all Proposition 36 participants.

14a. Where can we get a list of all the LA County Drug Courts, or newly assigned Prop 36 Courts?

In order to simplify the referring process and to ensure the consistency in data entry, both Drug Court (DCMIS) and Proposition 36 (TCPX) data collection systems do not require treatment providers to enter an assigned court name. A client's referring court information is available via the DCMIS and/or TCPX systems.

Re-solicitation

14b. Are Bidder's List exclusive? Will others, not on the list be able to submit bids?

The bidder's list is not exclusive and is maintained as a courtesy to any interested person who wants to be mailed information about future solicitations. All interested individuals can submit a bid and obtain the same mailed document by downloading it from the ADPA website.

14c. Why are API bilingual needs relegated to "cultural competency"? This is not the same thing.

The bilingual needs are not necessarily relegated to cultural competency. An agency should consider staff capacity or other community resources needed to appropriately and effectively provide services for its bilingual program participants.

15. Are the treatment programs going out to bid this year?

CalWORKs and Prevention are the current programs scheduled to be released this year.

16. What does JAG ARRA stand for and where is this money from?

The Justice Assistance Grant for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 is a federal funding source which is passed from State to other levels of government.

17. When will all the County contracts come up for bid (i.e. block grant, PSN, CalWORKs)? Are any RFP's released yet?

All individuals will be notified of any upcoming solicitations either through the mail or from the ADPA Web site. There are no current RFP's released.

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